

TAB

SECRET-EYES ONLY

GLOSSARY

FORTRAN

An automatic programming technique for computers in which the computer itself prepares many of the detailed instructions of a program. It permits the statement of a problem (or program) in terms very nearly approximating everyday mathematical notation. The programmer thus doesn't have to learn the detailed language of a particular computer. The computer automatically converts from everyday language to computer language.

Hardware

Computers. The mechanical, magnetic, electrical, and electronic devices from which a computer is constructed.

Key Punching

The operation of a keyboard machine to punch information manually into cards or tape.

Magnetic Tape

Tape on which polarized spots representing information may be stored. It does not permit random access to the memory and, hence, is a relatively slow means of making a data input to a computer.

Monitor System

In effect, a high-level computer program designed to control the operation of several sub- or unrelated routines so as to use the computer most advantageously. The monitor system instructs the computer to perform automatically several of the operations that are common to a set of individual programs. The programmer thus does not have to write all of these detailed instructions into each of his programs.

Programmer

A person who prepares sequences of instructions telling a computer precisely how to go about solving a problem.

Software

Programs, computer language systems, monitor systems, etc. that tell the computer what to do and how.

SECRET-EYES ONLY